project is at present at a preliminary stage. During the recent visit of Minister (P&NG) to Qatar on 21st November, 2005, he briefly discussed with the Minister of Energy & Industry of Qatar the possibilities of this project taking off in the near future. The Qatari Minister did not appear very hopeful, citing technological problems and the non-availability of gas for the project as the reasons..

Promotion of Natural Gas with Germany's Assistance

†688. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to take assistance from Germany to promote natural gas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government. However, a German company, M/s PLE Pipeline Engineering GmbH, has completed the detailed feasibility report (DFR), environment management plan (EMP) and Rapid Risk Analysis (RRA) for the Kakinada-Haldia natural gas pipeline of GAIL. Another German company, M/s Dorsch, is doing DFR, EMP and RRA for GAIL's Jagdishpur-Haldia pipeline.

Discrimination against SC/ST Employees

689. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR:
SHRI DHARAMPAL SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that different rules and policies are being followed by all the three wings of Indian Oil Corporation i.e Marketing, Pipeline and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.